

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
SECRETARY OF WAR  
FOR  
THE YEAR 1879.

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IN FOUR VOLUMES.

VOLUME I.  
          

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WASHINGTON:  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.  
1879.

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partment, there were tried in the department: Officers, none; enlisted men, by general courts-martial (cases), 49; by garrison courts-martial (cases), 681; total, 730 cases. These "cases" tried represent only 237 individual enlisted men; so it will be seen that each of these 237 men was tried on an average three times, while 824 enlisted men were not tried at all. Most of the trials by garrison courts-martial were at posts near large cities, and for absence without leave and intoxication.

Attention is invited to inclosed reports of the chief quartermaster, chief commissary of subsistence, medical director, judge-advocate, and acting assistant inspector-general of the department.

To the officers of my staff, both general and personal, I am indebted for faithful and efficient performance of the duties devolving upon them.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. C. AUGUR,

*Brigadier-General Commanding.*

The ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,  
HEADQUARTERS DIVISION OF THE ATLANTIC,  
Governor's Island, New York Harbor.

### 13.—REPORT OF MAJ. GEN. IRVIN McDOWELL.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC  
AND DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA,  
*Presidio of San Francisco, Cal., September 30, 1879.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report as follows concerning the service in this division since my last annual report, October 25, 1878:

#### DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA.

##### *Movement of troops.*

At date of last annual report, Company I, First Cavalry, was the only company belonging to the department still absent in the field, in the Department of the Columbia, against hostile Bannock Indians.

October 26, 1878.—Lieut. C. C. Norton, First Cavalry, in command of a detachment of 20 enlisted men of his company (C), escorted Indians from Camp Bidwell, Cal., to Camp Harney, Oreg.

November 3, 1878.—Company I, First Cavalry, rejoined station, Camp Halleck, Nev.

January 15, 1879.—Lieut. O. J. Brown, First Cavalry, with a detachment of 25 enlisted men, Company I, First Cavalry, proceeded by rail to Wadsworth Station, on the Central Pacific railroad, thence marching to Pyramid Lake Indian Agency, for the purpose of aiding the civil authorities as *posse comitatus* to remove squatters from the reservation. The detachment returned to station January 29.

January 25, 1879.—In obedience to telegraphic instructions from these headquarters, First Lieut. Thomas Garvey, First Cavalry, with detachment of Company C, First Cavalry, left Camp Bidwell, Cal., and were absent until January 31, endeavoring to intercept Indian prisoners reported as escaped from Camp Harney, Oreg.

February 1, 1879.—Sergt. Frederick Stones, Company C, Eighth Infantry, with a detachment of 10 men of same company, left Fort McDermitt, Nev., on scout to eastern range of Steins Mountains, Oreg., in pur-

suit of escaped Indian prisoners without encountering any Indians.

February 17 to 22, 1879.—Lieut. R. H. Wilson, of the company (E), were on a scout from Lagoon, Cal.

February 22 to March 13, Infantry, with detachment of Infantry, were on scout from "Ranch," on the western side of

April 14 to 21, 1879.—Ser Infantry, with detachment of scout from Fort McDermitt seen.

June 11, 1879.—In compliance, Capt. E. B. Savage, E company, left Fort Gaston, Indian Reservation for the purpose. Having accomplished his mission, leaving his detachment of the persons ejected. The

July 1, 1879.—Lieut. R. H. men of his company (E), Eight the trail between the post and completing this work.

July 1, 1879.—Company I, reconnaissance to Duck V. Company F, Eighth Infantry Company F, Twelfth Infantry Benicia Barracks, Cal.

I transmit herewith the following and the Division of the Pacific Annual report of the chief Annual report of the chief Annual report of the medic marked C.

Annual report of the chief Annual report of the engineer Letter from Inspector-General

DEPART

I inclose herewith the report of the Department of Arizona (marked G), chief commissary (marked I), acting inspector (marked K), engineer (marked LL).

The department commands the Salpai Indians, who have been in contact with the Apaches, and the Secretary of War authorizes will be but a temporary measure made for these Indians.

He also mentions especial

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s<sup>7</sup> tried represent only 237  
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IE ATLANTIC,  
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suit of escaped Indian prisoners. Returned to station February 15,  
without encountering any Indians.

February 17 to 22, 1879.—Capt. E. B. Savage, Eighth Infantry, and  
Lieut. R. H. Wilson, of the same regiment, with a detachment of their  
company (E), were on a scout from their station, Fort Gaston, to Stone  
Lagoon, Cal.

February 22 to March 13, 1879.—Lieut. J. W. Summerhayes, Eighth  
Infantry, with detachment of 10 enlisted men of Company C, Eighth  
Infantry, were on scout from Fort McDermit to "Pete French's  
Ranch," on the western side of Steins Mountains. No Indians seen.

April 14 to 21, 1879.—Sergt. Frederick Stones, Company C, Eighth  
Infantry, with detachment of 7 privates of the same company, were on  
scout from Fort McDermit toward Owyhee River, Oreg. No Indians  
seen.

June 11, 1879.—In compliance with instructions from the War Depart-  
ment, Capt. E. B. Savage, Eighth Infantry, with 11 enlisted men of his  
company, left Fort Gaston, Cal., and proceeded to the Lower Klamath  
Indian Reservation for the purpose of ejecting the trespassers therefrom.  
Having accomplished his mission, he returned to his post on the 29th  
July, leaving his detachment on the reservation to prevent the return  
of the persons ejected. The detachment is still camped on the reserva-  
tion.

July 1, 1879.—Lieut. R. H. Wilson, with a detachment of 11 enlisted  
men of his company (E), Eighth Infantry, left Fort Gaston, Cal., to repair  
the trail between the post and Arcata, Cal., returning August 26, after  
completing this work.

July 1, 1879.—Company I, First Cavalry, left Fort Halleck, Nev., on  
a reconnaissance to Duck Valley, Nev., returning to post July 31, 1879.

Company F, Eighth Infantry, is now under orders, when relieved by  
Company F, Twelfth Infantry, at Fort Mojave, Ariz., to take station at  
Benicia Barracks, Cal.

I transmit herewith the following papers concerning this department  
and the Division of the Pacific:

- Annual report of the chief quartermaster, marked A.
- Annual report of the chief commissary of subsistence, marked B.
- Annual report of the medical director of the Department of California,  
marked C.
- Annual report of the chief paymaster, marked D.
- Annual report of the engineer officer, marked E.
- Letter from Inspector-General Schriver, marked Ea.

DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA.

I inclose herewith the report of the department commander of the  
Department of Arizona (marked F), with the reports of his chief quarter-  
master (marked G), chief commissary of subsistence (marked H), chief  
paymaster (marked I), acting inspector general (marked J), medical  
director (marked K), engineer officer (marked L), and assistant adjutant-  
general (marked LL).

The department commander asks attention to the condition of the  
Hualpai Indians, who have been the allies of the United States in their  
wars with the Apaches, and who have been in a starving condition.  
The Secretary of War authorized two months' rations to be issued, but  
this will be but a temporary relief, and I ask some permanent provision  
be made for these Indians.

He also mentions especially the Pimas, Maricopas, and Papagos, as

needing some immediate attention, and hopes the matter may be referred to the Department of the Interior. I saw some of the Maricopa and Pima Indians last winter. I had seen them many years ago and the change they seemed to have undergone did not impress me favorably. With the building of the railroad to their villages came many temptations and many influences, and it will require care and help from the Department of the Interior to keep these interesting tribes from being dragged by their present surroundings to a lower level than they have heretofore occupied.

I join in recommending an early survey of the new reservation for these Indians on the Salinas. This survey, under the law, cannot be done by the military authorities, but must be done by the Department of the Interior.

There are some renegade Chiricahuas in Mexico, whose chiefs have intimated a desire to return to the reservation to which they belong. As to the measures referred to by the department commander, now being taken for their return, I have given explicit instructions that nothing should be done to touch in any way our international relations with Mexico; that with these Indians, as long as they remain beyond our limits, the military must do nothing.

I again call attention to the condition of the military telegraph line, maintained practically out of the appropriations for the Quartermaster's Department.

The line from San Diego to Maricopaville is utterly unnecessary. It is a rival to the Western Union direct line. The line should be abandoned west of Maricopaville, and as fast as the Western Union line advances with the railroad it should be used, and the military line should be abandoned and transferred to such portions of the Territory—between military posts—as are without the telegraph. There is no comparison in the cost or the efficiency of the service. The station of the officer in charge of the military line has also been heretofore reported against. He might as well be in Washington City as where he is, at San Diego. His being kept there, manifestly out of place, is a subject of constant remark and reproach.

I have twice asked the General of the Army and the Secretary of War to sanction the establishment of a military post in Southern Arizona, but the question was not favorably considered, and the station at Huachuca has been ordered to be kept as a mere camp. But it has been kept there for so long that, little by little, and in spite of orders, shelter for subsistence, forage, medical stores, and for the officers and men have been improvised, and the War Department has recently authorized the erection of a temporary hospital, so that there is now no practical distinction between this and other stations in the Territory. It is established with a view to the Mexican frontier, is of importance, is healthy, and is as near the line of the railroad as any post in that section can be placed and effect the object for which it was established.

The same remarks apply to Camp John A. Rucker. The completion of so many miles of the Southern Pacific Railroad has already had a marked effect on the supply of the troops, and its near completion to New Mexico will still further reduce our expenses and add to the efficiency of the service.

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA.

I inclose herewith the report of the department commander, Department of the Columbia (marked M), with the reports of the chief quarter

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Barracks, Wash., August 27, 1879.  
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O. D. GREENE,  
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are over stage-lines, where the

cost of travel is so great as to oblige officers to take transportation re-  
quests.

I earnestly recommend that the present laws be so amended as to  
permit officers their actual expenses when traveling under orders, or  
mileage at their option. This amendment to the law is a simple matter  
of justice to officers of the Army, and would only place them on the same  
footing as employes of other branches of the government. Even the  
civilian employes in the Army are given a per-diem allowance when  
traveling in addition to their actual transportation.

Hoping that this management of the department has met the approval  
of the division commander, and recognizing gratefully the continued and  
cordial support he has rendered him.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. O. HOWARD,  
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

The ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL  
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC,  
Presidio of San Francisco.

[Telegram.]

VANCOUVER BARRACKS, WASH.,  
October 9, 1879.

To ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL  
DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC,  
Presidio, California:

My annual report indicated a failure in the main object of the expedi-  
tion against the Sheepeaters and renegades located between Little Sal-  
mon and Snake Rivers. Now it is reversed, and the expedition has  
handsomely been completed by Lieutenant Farrow and his scouts, having  
defeated the Indians in two skirmishes, capturing their camps with stores  
and stock. He has finally forced the entire band to surrender, and will  
deliver them as prisoners of war at this post. Lieutenants Farrow,  
Twenty-first Infantry, and W. C. Brown, First Cavalry, with the seven  
enlisted men, citizen employes, and Indian scouts deserve special men-  
tion for gallantry, energy, and perseverance, resulting in success. There  
is not a rougher or more difficult country for campaigning in America.

Please add this to my report.

HOWARD,  
Commanding Department.

A true copy:

J. C. KELTON,  
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

# 15.—REPORT OF COL. O. B. WILLCOX.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA.  
Whipple Barracks, Prescott, September 4, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith my report for the past  
year.

The condition of the military service has improved in nearly all re-  
spects during the year. The bids for supplies at the different posts are  
generally lower than they were last year.

The influx of miners and stock raisers, with the temptations presented for plunder, has increased the number of thieves, white and red, but considering the very wide extent of Arizona Territory, and its bordering on Mexico, a fair progress has been made in the peaceful settlement of the country under military protection.

The number of authenticated deaths at the hands of the Indians for the year does not exceed five, only one of which can be accredited to Arizona Indians.

Considerable alarm and insecurity was felt when the Eighth Infantry was leaving the department and before the Twelfth Infantry took its place, particularly as the Indians at San Carlos were complaining for food. Another outbreak seemed imminent in the month of April. The Agent at San Carlos reported that the greatest precautions were necessary. On both occasions, the troops were posted to the best advantage, and the Apaches, however excited, were restrained from hostility.

In the month of May, a band of Mescalero Apache warriors, whose wives and children had been moved from their reservation in New Mexico to the San Carlos Reservation, made a descent upon the latter place, probably for the purpose of obtaining their families, but fortunately sufficient notice of their coming was given by their attack on two herders near Clifton, and running off some mules, to put both my troops and the police at the reservation on guard, so that the movement was repulsed and completely frustrated. The Indians were chased by Lieutenant Howard, Twelfth Infantry, with his company of scouts, across the San Francisco Mountains into New Mexico, where the trail was taken up by the troops of that district, and the Indians severely punished.

In June some atrocities were committed in the Tonto Basin, which was followed by an attack on two prospectors on the Mogollon Mountains, near Baker's Springs; but the savages were ferreted out and amply punished. They were found to be a remnant of Tonto Apaches who had never come in. Supposing that after the Baker Springs affair our scouting parties would move to that quarter they returned to Tonto Basin, only to fall into the hands of Lieutenant Von Schrader, Twelfth Infantry, whose Indian company wiped out the whole party, except a squaw, whose life they spared, and whom they brought in unharmed.

The latest killing of whites occurred in the month of August of this year by a company of bandits, made up of American fugitives, Mexicans, and some Indians, who ran up from the Sonora line, carried off stock, and killed two estimable citizens of Arizona, named Shillenback, near old Fort Wallen. These thieves and murderers were vigorously pursued by Lieutenant Bailey, Sixth Cavalry, who started out from Camp Huachuca, as soon as the intelligence was received, and scattered the party across the neighboring frontier. It is to be expected that desperadoes of this class will increase, more or less, until the Southern Pacific Railroad and Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fé Railroad shall be completed, as outlaws seem to hover like vultures over the advance of our transcontinental railroad for gambling and forming transient associations for plundering honest settlers.

These people should be treated as public enemies: but as in the case of stage and mailrobbers, than whom there can scarcely be found a class more inimical to the development of a rich mineral country, the *posse comitatus* clause of the law of June, 1878, throws the *agis* of its protection around them. During the year several applications have been made to these headquarters, and the authority of the honorable the Secretary of War was obtained for military protection to the United States mails, and everything has been done by the troops that was practicable under the law above referred to.

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I have called repeated attention to the condition of the Hualpais, our friendly and faithful red children, living in the Mineral Park, Cerbat, and Hackberry Ranges, through whose instrumentality, as scouts, Gen. Crook was enabled to subdue the Apaches. It is a bitter reflection upon our justice that these Indians should be allowed to suffer for food, and I would respectfully, but urgently, recommend that an appropriation of, say, \$2,000 a year be asked for the purchase of beef and other necessities for the relief of destitute Indians by the department commander through his chief commissary of subsistence.

(Since the foregoing was written, authority has been received from the War Department to issue rations for sixty days to these Indians.)

And here comes up a question as to the first steps necessary in civilizing the Indians. The Indians on reservations are under the exclusive control of the Indian Department; those off the reservations come under military, and in organized counties under the local civil governments. Now, as the railroads advance through this department, the whites and Indians will be brought more and more in contact, and the machinery of the civil law does not seem applicable to the organization of the mixed society which ensues; something therefore needs to be done. As the French railroads push down into Algeria the wandering natives of the desert settle around the wells and plant date trees. Here they come to squat and drink whisky. If the moral and intellectual forces at work in the Indian Department could be brought to bear on the question of preparing for these transformations going on all over the western territory, it might save wars and wasteful and inhuman sacrifices and convert our heathen children into civilized societies.

In no part of the United States is there such a field for it as in Arizona, among the Pimas, Maricopas, and Papagoes. These are Pueblo or habitation Indians, grain raisers and pottery manufacturers. But if something is not done to guide their industries, to give their children schooling, to teach them the first principles of town and county government, it will be found that contact with American institutions will soon make them seven-fold nearer the children of hell than if they had never seen "a white man and a brother."

The Papagoes, though not so immediately on and along the railroad lines, are found drifting thitherward in large numbers. These Indians under Mexican auspices have made greater strides toward Christianity than any other tribe I know of. They were essentially, or at least those in the vicinity of Tucson, Catholic Indians. But for the want of a Catholic agent, funds and teachers, their schools at San Xavier have been closed, and they are relapsing fast into ignorance.

I would request that this matter be referred to the Department of the Interior, not only as a question of civilizing the Papagoes, but as an auxiliary of preserving peace with, and maintaining our influence over, this tribe.

The agency at San Carlos is now temporarily in charge of Capt. A. R. Claffee, Sixth Cavalry, not under military management or control, but under the supervision of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and is conducted by the rules of and responsible directly to that office. As a temporary necessity this change seemed to be needed, but I hope that the exigency will not continue long. I doubt, however, whether so important a post, with such a large patronage, can be filled satisfactorily on so small a salary as that paid the civil agent—scarcely equal to a fifth-rate clerkship in any large establishment. His salary should be sufficient to place him above temptation, and to secure high order of ability.

The Salt River land question has been settled by the reservation order originally recommended by Captain Chaffee and myself.

The survey of this new reservation for the Pimas and Maricopas should be made at once, as Indians are already inquiring for the limits within which to lay out their ditches for the next year's cultivation. It would be well to get these red men away from the railroads speedily to their new lands at the confluence of the Verde and the Salt Rivers.

The peace of this department is due to perpetual scouting operations. These are bloodless and silent victories, which assure the prospector, miner, and ranchman unseen protection, and prevent the Arizona renegade, or the predatory hostile from Mexico, from reaching the industrious citizen. But with such a small force, and such an immense stretch of territory, crossed by mountains and hiding-places in every direction, some skulking thieves, like coyotes, will break in. But I question whether the death-rate, or even the stealing, equals that of any civilized country.

The field operations in Southeastern Arizona have been ably conducted by Maj. C. E. Compton, Sixth Cavalry, who has lately been promoted and gone to another department. My thanks are greatly due to this officer for his quickness and vigilance, also for his great discretion and local knowledge in covering the right places with troops at the right time, without uselessly harassing those at rest in camp.

A brief containing scouting operations from the different posts is herewith submitted. It is believed that our scouting operations for the present year will be carried on principally in New Mexico against the renegade Apaches of that district, and on the Sonora line against combinations of Indians with border ruffians. The renegade Chiricahuas, who have given us so much trouble, and concerning whose existence there has been so much dispute heretofore, are authentically located now near Casa Grande, in Chihuahua, from which place they raid out. Measures are now being taken for the peaceful return of the remnants of this tribe.

The friendly co-operation and good feeling which have been exhibited by the Interior Department towards the military has been not only duly appreciated, but productive of good results.

I submit herewith for the information of the division commander and heads of the respective division staff departments the reports of the assistant adjutant-general, acting assistant inspector-general, chief quartermaster, chief commissary of subsistence, medical director, chief paymaster, and acting engineer officer, all of whom have managed their business this year admirably.

The attention of the Adjutant-General of the Army is urgently invited to the report of the assistant adjutant-general in respect to the embarrassment arising in his office from the diminution in the pay of general-service clerks. The amount of work done in this department of the staff is very great, and skill, quickness, and reliability are of the utmost importance at the headquarters of a department that may be considered as always in the field. It is certainly unfair that these clerks should receive less pay than their associates in the other staff departments. But irrespective of the injustice of the case, it has now reached the point that qualified clerks are not to be had for the money allowed. I trust that these important auxiliaries to speedy and correct work at the very fountain-head of this department may soon be placed on the best footing.

Attention is respectfully invited to the subject of "approval of contracts," in the report of the chief commissary of subsistence. He says that the time elapsing between the date of receipt of proposals and the



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Army is urgently invited al in respect to the em- ution in the pay of gen- n this department of the iability are of the utmost it that may be considered at these clerks should re- staff departments. But s now reached the point money allowed. I trust correct work at the very placed on the best footing. ject of "approval of con- of subsistence. He says eipt of proposals and the

time fixed for the delivery of supplies is too short to permit of the completion of the contracts and of their transmission for the official action of the division commander. The causes and embarrassing results of this trouble are set forth in his report, and the proper remedy suggested.  
The quartermaster's department, on which so much depends, has never been, I believe, in so good a condition.  
Much praise is due to the post commanders themselves for the judicious and economical improvement of their posts and the care of their men and of the public property. And great interest also has been manifested at some of the posts in the improvement of officers and men in their shooting. Modern warfare has developed the skirmish line and precise firing into something like a science, depending for its success upon individual shots. But the system of instruction is not yet perfected.  
An enlisted man of this department, Sergt. Z. T. Woodall, Company I, Sixth Cavalry, heads the division team for Creedmoor this present year, and Corpl. W. Brill, Company G, Twelfth Infantry, is a member of the team. Forts Verde and McDowell have shown a leading spirit in target practice, and it is believed that all the other posts will do their fall part in the future; but the troops farther out have been more taken up with scouting and labor. The present department prize, contributed by the division commander, was duly appreciated by the troops in this part of his command, and was won by Lieut. H. P. Kingsbury, Sixth Cavalry, stationed at Fort Verde.  
Much assistance has been received from division headquarters by intelligent direction and stimulating marks of distinction, and the men of this command, under more or less encouragement from their officers, have responded nobly.  
Very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
O. B. WILLCOX,  
Colonel Twelfth Infantry, Brevet Major-General (assigned),  
Commanding Department.  
The ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,  
Military Division of the Pacific, Presidio of San Francisco, Cal.